

U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

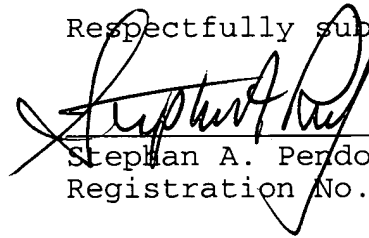
Attorney Docket: 3975.024

**REMARKS**

The claims have been amended to conform the claims to U.S. practice and requirements. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter has been added.

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephan A. Pendorf', is written over a horizontal line.

Stephan A. Pendorf  
Registration No. 32,665

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Date: **October 20, 2003**